

To note results of Annual Play Area Inspection and agree actions

Council Meeting – 2 June 2024

Background

The Play Inspection Company undertook an Annual Play Inspection. The report was received on 4 May 2024.

Annual inspections take into consideration compliance with current standards and defects related to wear and vandalism.

All inspections are non-dismantling, non-destructive and do not include any structural, toxicology or impact assessments.

The inspector accesses all reasonably accessible equipment and will assess all reasonably accessible parts above the standing surface.

The details contained within the report are a snapshot of the condition at the time of inspection only and subsequent events may affect the condition of the facility.

Suggested remedial actions are based on the knowledge and experience of the inspector and/or that of the inspection company.

The total risk scores included the report are a multiplication factor of the calculated Likelihood and Severity of each finding. Both Likelihood and Severity are given a number between 1 - 5 as shown on the matrix above and these two numbers are then multiplied together to give the total risk score that is shown against defects on the report.

Overview

There were 3 findings classified as Moderate Risk, as follows:

- There are areas or parts of the timber on the structure that have rotted and it is recommended to be all timbers affected to be replaced (Activity Equipment - Multi Play (Junior) Finding 9)
- A clearly visible facility sign should be provided in a prominent position with the wording as detailed BS EN 15312 - “The equipment is not intended for children less than 3 years old - the warning – “Do not climb on the framework or nets” - the warning – “Do not hang on the ring (if provided)” - the warning – “Do not wear rings or other jewellery” - name and telephone number of the administrator - number to call in case of accident - It is recommended we provide signage to BS EN 15312 (MUGA Finding 1)
- The net for the basketball hoop is severely damaged and is recommended to be replaced (MUGA Finding 2)

All others were classified as Low or Very Low Risk.

Proposal

Actions fall into four categories, Cllr Leigh-Jones, Contractor and Handyperson Group and Groundsman (see attached schedule).

Recommendations

Prices are obtained from contractors (eg Infinity Playgrounds) for:

- Reinststate surrounding surface to eroded foundations (p27)
- Replace rotted timber posts (photos pages 33, 57)
- Provide additional ties to secure grass mats (p67)
- Install recommended BS EN 15312 sign (p68)
- Replace basketball net (p69)
- Replace rubber buffer from latch plate (p69)
- Replace missing fence fixings (p71)

Cllr Leigh-Jones to monitor support chains to various play equipment and report when 40% worn (photos pages 52, 66) and further deterioration of rot in timber to basket swing (p63)

No action to de-silt (remove mud) from Grass matrix tiles under outdoor play equipment (see p24, 51, 54, 65, 67)

Handyperson Group to remove graffiti from shield on play area (p38)

Handyperson Group to cut back overhanging foliage (p81)

Cllr Leigh-Jones to replace missing caps (photos pages 59, 64) and tighten loose nuts and bolts (photo page 69). Also to investigate and replace missing inserts to tunnel entrance and slide (p42, 32)